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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 20 APR 51

SUBJECT Motorized Units of 3 Military District

NO. OF PAGES 2

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. 1 (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. Before the creation of the military districts in 1948, there was a motorized battalion assigned to the First Army in Nis. This battalion was composed of three companies and an auxiliary platoon. Each company had from 18 to 20 vehicles of different types, such as: Klenkers (sic), Farconis (sic), Fords, Mans (sic), Skodas, Betworths, and Citroens. The Commander of this battalion was Captain Bosko Skakic, and the Political Commissar was Captain Ivica Jasenko.

2. In addition to the motorized battalion in Nis, the First Army had an automobile school for officers in Cuprija and a non-commissioned officer tank school in Kragujevac. The Commander of the automobile school was Lieutenant Colonel Nikola Bjelac and the Commissar Major Petar Prica. Commander of the tank school was Lieutenant Bogdan Tomislav and its Commissar was Lieutenant Nikola Rodic. This school was made up of three companies of approximately 120 to 130 men each.

3. After the creation of the six military districts, each region formed its own motorized regiment. At that time First Army was named the Ninth Army and moved to Kragujevac in the 3 Military District. Its motorized battalion was made a part of the motorized regiment of the 3 Military District and the central automobile workshop was placed under the command of this regiment. The regiment was composed of three battalions, two of which were school battalions and the other a transport battalion. The school battalions had three companies of 80 to 100 men and 15 to 25 vehicles each. The transport battalions were also composed of three companies but had from 35 to 50 men. The vehicles of the school battalions were kept by a technical platoon in each battalion. Every four months a class of drivers finished training and the men were assigned to a motorized company of some division or to the motorized artillery.

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Document No. 3
No Change in Class.
Declassified
Class. Changed To: TS S C
Auth: HR 70-2
Date: 07 AUG 1978 By:

Approved For Release 2006/01/12 : CIA-RDP82-00457R007300460003-2

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Regiment Commander	:	Major Slavko Vulelija
Political Commissar	:	Captain Detlic Nikola
Chief of Staff	:	Captain Milan Raseta

1 Battalion

Commander	:	Captain Mladen Kosovic
Political Commissar	:	Captain Nikola Rajicic
Assistant Political Commissar	:	Lieutenant Radoje Katic
1 Company Commander	:	Lieutenant Ciril Matijevic
2 Company Commander	:	Captain Djuro Pavic
3 Company Commander	:	Second Lieutenant Dusan Katnic
Technical Assistant	:	Branko Zezelj

2 Battalion

Commander	:	Major Slavko Culibrk
Political Commissar	:	Captain Vaso Malic
2 Company Commander	:	Bratislav Djordjevic

3 (Transport) Battalion

Commander	:	A Captain (first name Branko)
Political Commissar	:	Captain Cedo Ilic (later discharged as a Cominformist)

5. In May of 1948, all the regiments were disbanded. The 1 Battalion was left in Kragujevac, and the 2 Battalion was moved to Skoplje. The transport battalion was disbanded and the men were assigned to 1 and 2 Battalions. These battalions are no longer schools but serve as transport battalions.

6. Commander of 3 Military District is Lieutenant General Radovan Vukanovic. The Chief of Staff is Major General Pero Kosoric. Two or three armies and some special regiments; (engineer, liaison and heavy artillery) are assigned to 3 Military District. The command of this region in Nis has a motorized detachment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Nikola Bjelac. The depot, military [redacted] 25X1 is located in the Nis fortress and commanded by Captain Jeremija Lazovic. The commissar is a Captain Nikola Nikolic. The depot has 50 to 60 vehicles of different makes, mostly Fragas, Fords and James. Most of them are old and worn out, and there are few spare parts. All motors of the 3 Military District, as well as of the whole Yugoslav army, are in poor condition.

7. The general department of the 3 Military District has a motorized platoon made up of the best cars and motorcycles of the region, which serves command needs. Commander of the platoon is Second Lieutenant Zivota Petrovic, a nationalist, and the only officer in the 3 Military District who is not a Communist.

8. A sketch of Auto Battalion in Kragujevac is attached.

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